Linking of Cochin-Madurai Road

2193. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Kerala regarding Cochin-Madurai Road, linking the M.C. Road, and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Trivandrum-Madurai via Moovattupuzha Road is likely to be declared as national highway; and

(c) if so, by when the Central Government propose to take up the work of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) The Government of Kerala have proposed the declaration of the Cochin-Madurai Road and of the M.C. Road emanating from Trivandrum and terminating at Angamali as a National Highway. Owing to limitation of resources and other priority considerations, it has not been possible to accede to this request.

Koilam Manjeswaram canal

2194. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to declare Koilam Manjeswaram canal as a national waterway; and

(b) whether any proposal is being considered to construct more than 250 boat jettys in Kerala and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Only the Quilon-Cochin Section of the West Coast Canal has been identified for declaration as a national waterway.

(b) The responsibility for construction of boat jetties on the inland waterways in Kerala rests with the State Govt. The State Govt. has formulated a scheme for re-construction/modernisation of 250 jetties.

2195. [*Transferred to the 24th March*, 1988].

Departure time of 952 Dn. Train

2196. SHRI M.A. BABY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to change the departure time from Tuesday to every Saturday or Sunday of the 952 Dn. from Howrah; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Reservation counter at Howrah, Esplanade

2197. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for reservation either at Howrah or Esplanade Booking counters for passengers bound for Trichur and Shornur; and

(b) if not whether Government propose to make reservation arrangements for both the stations and vice-versa because these two junctions are very important stations and large number of passengers bound for North and Central Kerala seek reservations here?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Reservation facility is available for the passengers to travel from Howrah to Trichur/Shornur and vice-versa.

Departure time of 952 Dn. Train

2198. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present departure timings of 952 Dn. train from